

AGRICULTURE

8570 Department of Food and Agriculture

Background. The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) provides services to both producers and consumers of California's agricultural products in the areas of agricultural protection, agricultural marketing, and support to local fairs. The purpose of the agricultural protection program is to prevent the introduction and establishment of serious plant and animal pests and diseases. The agricultural marketing program promotes California's agricultural products and protects consumers and producers through the enforcement of measurements, standards, and fair pricing practices. Finally, the department provides financial and administrative assistance to county and district fairs.

Governor's Budget. The Governor's Budget proposes \$240 million to support CDFA in 2006-07. This is approximately \$14 million more than the level of expenditures estimated in the current year. This increase is primarily due to a new budget proposal to address emerging diseases.

Summary of Expenditures				
(dollars in thousands)	2005-06	2006-07	\$ Change	% Change
Type of Expenditure				
Agricultural Plant and Animal Health, Pest Prevention, and Food Safety Services	\$148,312	\$160,083	\$11,771	7.9
Marketing and Commodity and Agricultural Services	62,375	63,773	1,398	2.2
Assistance to Fair and County Agricultural Activities	60,918	60,333	-585	-1.0
Capital Outlay	376	26,419	26,043	6926.3
Administration	14,280	14,392	112	0.8
<i>less distributed administration</i>	<i>-13,178</i>	<i>-13,292</i>	<i>-114</i>	<i>0.0</i>
Total	\$273,083	\$311,708	\$38,625	14.1
Funding Source				
General Fund	\$83,336	\$91,588	\$8,252	9.9
Special Funds	140,747	146,763	6,016	4.3
Bond Funds	1,178	1,178	0	0.0
<i>Budget Act Total</i>	<i>225,261</i>	<i>239,529</i>	<i>14,268</i>	<i>6.3</i>
Federal Trust Fund	37,012	42,480	5,468	14.8
Public Building Construction Fund		17,556	17,556	0.0
Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund	1,239	1,273	34	2.7
Reimbursements	9,571	10,870	1,299	13.6
Total	\$273,083	\$311,708	\$38,625	14.1

Highlights

Emerging Threats to Food Production. The Governor's Budget proposes \$7.2 million General Fund to establish an ongoing program to address emerging threats to California's food supply, including Avian Influenza and bioterrorism.

Private Vehicle Inspection Program. The Governor's Budget proposes \$380,000 General Fund to support five 2-year limited-term positions to conduct a pilot project to determine the pest introduction risk presented by private vehicles entering the state.

Tax Enforcement Pilot Program. The Governor's Budget proposes \$250,000 in reimbursements to support three 2-year limited-term positions to conduct a pilot project to evaluate tax collection potential from property purchased outside California and transported into the state without payment of appropriate taxes. The project is being conducted in conjunction with the Board of Equalization and will entail CDFA personnel inspecting cargo and copying all pertinent information from commercial shipments entering the state through the Needles Agricultural Inspection Station.

Hydrogen Highway. The Governor's Budget proposes \$174,000 in General Fund to support one 1-year limited-term position to develop standards related to hydrogen fuel quality. This proposal supports the Governor's Hydrogen Highway Blueprint Plan.